

Republican Valley Library System



VALLEYTALK

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Republican Valley Library

System,

2727 W. 2nd St. # 233,

Hastings, NE 68901

Phone: (402) 462-1975

Fax (402) 462-1974

Toll Free 1-800-569-4961

<http://libraries.ne.gov/rvls>

Editors:

Denise Harders,

System Director,

rvlsadmin@inebraska.com

Kay Kloppenborg,

Administrative Assistant,

rvlsasst@inebraska.com

We reserve the right to
edit or refuse
all contributions.

Board Members

Dixie Codner

Jody Crocker

Annette Eisenhart

Beth Falla

Jane Hilton

Pat Hughes

Tim Johnson

Robyn Johnston

Mo Khamouna

Vicki Perrie

Sky Seery

Dana Wade

RVLS GRANTS

As you all know, the Nebraska Regional Library Systems are being restructured. The original six systems have been reconfigured into four larger regions effective January 1, 2015. Eight counties of the Republican Valley Library System are changing to other regions—some to the east and some to the west. The majority of RVLS is included in the new Central Plains Library System. To see the map, click on this link: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/systems/RegionalSystems5162014.pdf>.

Over the years, the Republican Valley Library System accumulated some money in savings. In light of the reconfiguration, the RVLS Board decided to offer that money in the form of small grants to the existing RVLS members. Last October, the System awarded 34 grants in the amount of \$400 each. The grants were intended to promote continuing education for library staff members and/or programming in all types of libraries.

This special supplement of the **ValleyTalk** newsletter focuses on the creative ways RVLS member libraries used the Grant funds.

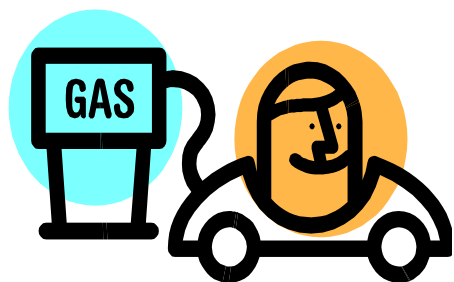
Kay and I will continue to be available in the Hastings office with the current telephone and fax numbers. We will notify you when our email addresses and the system webpage change.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Merry Christmas



Illustration by pspaddictsrus.com SDU

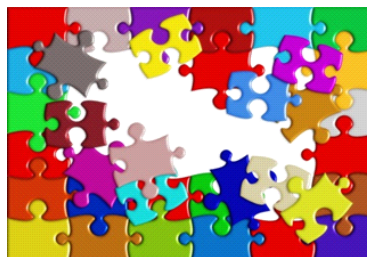


We used our funds to cover the costs of travel to the NLA Annual meeting in October. Our drive was 660 miles round trip. That was a lot of gas! -

Tina J. Walker,
Area Director of Learning Resources,
Mid-Plains Community College,
McCook, NE.

Programming Area for Children

- Clay Center Public Library
- Maxine White Sutherland Public Library



Here is a little bit of what **Andy Ohlson** from **Axtell Public School** wrote about getting the grant.

"I have used the grant monies to purchase an over-sized bean bag for a new crash pad in the media center. The kids are quite excited about this new fixture, and I'm very pleased to see a few more readers showing up in the media center every day.

I am incredibly thankful for this opportunity to creatively connect students to reading!"



The **After School Program** participants at the **Beaver City Library**, are thrilled to have bigger chairs that fit them.

They are, also, excited to use their new cage bingo for the reward parties.

Their "Thank You" poster brightens a wall in the RVLS office.

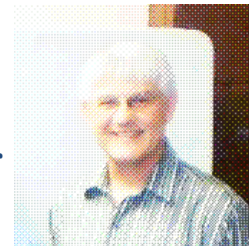
"The globe has been an exciting addition to our library."



Wilcox-Hildreth School

RVLS Board Member,
Tim Johnson says:

"This is a great way to use our funds."



Continuing Education for Library Staff



- ◇ Blue Hill Public Library
- ◇ Holdrege Area Public Library



Hildreth Public Library recently opened a newly renovated Library. With more people coming to programs, they needed more chairs.

"RVLS has always been supportive of libraries and the generosity of this grant is no exception."

Vicki Casper, Library Director



Guest Speakers

- ◇ Perkins Library, Hastings College
- ◇ North Platte Public Library

Display Board



◆ McCook City Library

Hoesch Memorial Library in Alma is starting a new "Legos at the Library" program "to interest more children to visit the library."

RVLS Grant money will purchase Legos and Lego project books to get this program off the ground.

Keri Anderson, Library Director





Robin Quinn from **Hastings Memorial Library** in Grant says “This is our new children's seating area. The rug and bean bag chairs were purchased with the RVLS mini grant funds. They have been a big hit so far.”

Franklin Public Library is using the grant money to fund the upcoming Centennial Celebration.

“I look forward to the System changes coming; continuing old friendships and acquiring new ones.”

Linda Gooder

Janene Hill, Library Director at Minden's **Jensen Memorial Library**, plans to purchase items to enhance story time and outreach programs including carpet squares, flannel boards, music CDs, a portable CD player, and puppets.

This Orange Tabby Kitten puppet is sure to be a hit.



Elwood Public Library

selected book sets to enhance the children's section in their new library.

Jane Hilton, Library Director, said “Of course, the money is already spent, and what fun it was!”



North Platte Public Schools

Sharon Axthelm and Claudette Wielechowski ordered two sets of each of the Golden Sower 2015 Intermediate and Young Adult nominees for the sixth grade Literacy teachers to use in their classrooms next year. The grant from the Republican Valley Library System is an invaluable help in making this quality reading material more readily available to the students.

Klyte Burt Memorial Library in Curtis decided to offer more material to the patrons by joining the Nebraska OverDrive Consortium.

Marcia Wortman, Library Director

OverDrive



Axtell Public library is using the grant money to give the Children's Room a facelift.

They have purchased paint and wall decals to make the room bright and inviting.

Jackie Minnis, Axtell Public Library

The RVLS grant money was used to purchase this 2-sided banner for parade use. The Library takes part in 4 parades during the year and this vinyl banner makes getting ready so much faster.

"No more card board signs or crepe paper." The remaining money was used to purchase board games, a bean bag chair and summer reading supplies."



Raylene Stephens, **C.B. Preston Memorial Library—Orleans**

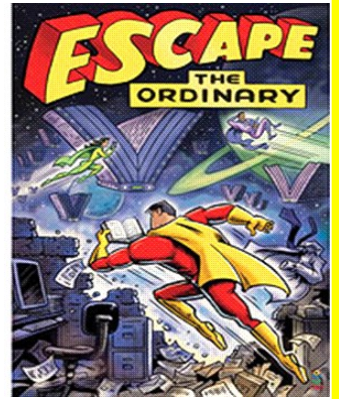


Superior Public Library used their RVLS Grant to set up a Children's Activity Center. They have totes with nuts and bolts, puzzles, beads, geoboards, magnifying glasses, prisms, peg boards, and board games.

Sounds like a Maker Space to me!



Maria Downer, from the **Butler Memorial Library** in **Cambridge**, spent the grant funds on lots of prizes and incentives to read during the Summer Reading Program. She purchased a number of books to go with the program, too. Maria says "I am super excited about having a blast this summer!"



"Thanks so much for the grant money!! We really appreciate it!! "



Teen Space Furniture



- ◆ Arapahoe Public Library
- ◆ Fairfield Public Library

Dundy County Library in Benkelman used the RVLS Grant funds to purchase a high quality rug for their children's area.

"Thank so much for helping us get the carpet," Bill Keller, Library Director said. "It is a bright, colorful and durable addition to the library."



Lego Clubs and Maker Spaces

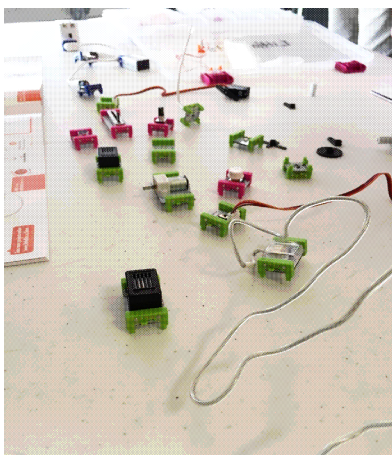
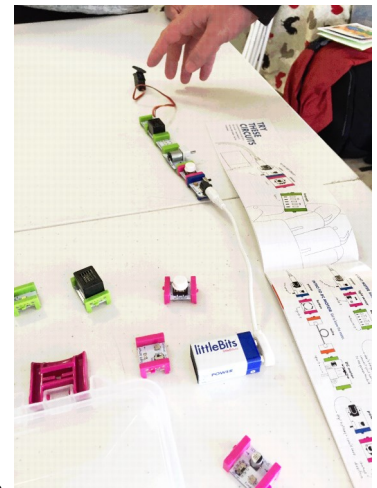
- ⇒ Hastings High School
- ⇒ Lied Imperial Public Library
- ⇒ Nelson Public Library

HASTINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Looking ahead to Teen Tech Week 2015, we used our grant money to purchase three "Little Bits" kits. Little bits are user friendly pieces used to make simple circuits that do fun things.

"There are a lot of projects that we have played with so far, including making buzzers and playing with lights. We used them at our all staff day, and at our Teen Advisory Board meeting in November. Everybody had fun testing the waters with them. For Teen Tech Week, hopefully our Teen Board will have familiarized themselves with the Little bits enough to demonstrate to other teens how to use them in productive ways."

Jake Rundle, Collections Librarian



Blue Hill Community School purchased Kindle unlimited Classroom and Amazon Fire TV to stream content to classroom projectors with the RVLS Grant funds.



“Thank you so much for the grant! We are looking **forward to setting that up for** our students!” Chris Uridil

DVDs and Large Print



Hayes
Center
Public
Library

Hastings Public Schools' **Morton Elementary Library** is excited to be making changes. “I am so excited for the Morton Library and can’t wait for them to see the new chairs wall quote, and carpet.”

Connie Murray, School Librarian

Bulletin Board Supplies



* Culbertson Public Library

Republican Valley Library System
2727 West 2nd Street St. # 233
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Serving Counties:

Adams
Chase
Clay
Dundy
Franklin
Frontier
Furnas
Gosper
Harlan
Hayes
Hitchcock
Kearney
Lincoln
Logan
McPherson
Nuckolls
Perkins
Phelps
Red Willow
Webster

Be well, do good work, and keep in
touch.. ~*Garrison Keillor*